

Message Text

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ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07
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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4124

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, RP
SUBJ: EXIMBANK REQUEST FOR MARKET INFORMATION ON NYLON FILAMENT
RE AMERICAN PHILIPPINE FIBER/CHENTEX NYLON FILAMENT PLANT

REF: STATE 300284

1. IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES MADE IN PARA 2 OF REFTEL ARE
THE FOLLOWING:

A. FIGURES FOR NYLON FILAMENT IMPORTATIONS ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

ONLY DATA AVAILABLE ARE AGGREGATE IMPORTATIONS OF FILAMENT
WEAVING YARN, INCLUSIVE OF POLYSTER FILAMENT (CIF VALUE, US\$)

COUNTRY OF

ORIGIN	1973	1974	1975
UNITED STATES	528,280	509,177	278,569
UNITED KINGDOM & NORTHERN IRELAND	181,477	-	39,067
NETHERLANDS	486,625	96,615	-
BELGIUM	88,604	-	34,989
FRANCE	604,246	1,442,280	15,153

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GERMANY, FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF 663,701 980,427 264,378
KOREA, REPUBLIC OF 156,628 - 535,656
HONGKONG 26,255 1,655,387 1,627,774
CHINA, REPUBLIC OF
(TAIWAN) 789,869 1,536,609 6,119,187

JAPAN	11,143,474	11,800,462	7,680,571
ITALY	81,843	-	-
CANADA	50,022	-	-
MEXICO	45,165	-	-
THAILAND	120,683	-	-

TOTAL	14,966,872	18,020,957	16,595,343
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SOURCE: FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS OF THE PHILIPPINES

B. TARIFF RATES IMPOSED TO PROTECT DOMESTIC MANUFACTURERS
OF NYLON FILAMENT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(1) POLYESTER YARN -----AD VOLEM 50 PERCENT

(2) POLYESTER YARN AND PLYFIL,
WHEN IMPORTED DIRECTLY BY
TEXTILE MILLS UNDER PRIOR
JOINT AUTHORIZATION OF THE
TARIFF COMMISSION AND BOARD
OF INVESTMENTS -----AD VALOREM 10 PERCENT

C. TWO COMPANIES ARE CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN PRODUCING
NYLON FILAMENT: TEXTIFIBER CORPORATION AND PHILIPPINE
POLIAMIDE CORPORATION.

PHILIPPINE

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TEXTIFIBER CORPORATION POLIAMIDE

CORPORATION

DATE OF OPERATION	1970	OCTOBER 1976
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REGISTERED ANNUAL
CAPACITY (METRIC
TONS PER YEAR)

1970	2,100	-
1976	3,960	5,690

PRODUCTION (METRIC
TONS)

1973	2,140	-
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1974	2,078	-
1975	2,341	-
1976	514&	788

&REPRESENTS FIRST QUARTER

D. IN 1970, THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS (BOI) APPROVED THE APPLICATION OF AMERICAN PHILIPPINE FIBER INDUSTRIES INC. FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NYLON FILAMENT YARN FACILITY IN MANILA. AT THAT TIME, NYLON FILAMENT PRODUCTION WAS BELOW MEASURED CAPACITY OF THE INDUSTRY. CURRENTLY, NYLON CONSTITUTES ONLY 1/3 OF TOTAL FIBER COMPONENT UTILIZED BY FIBER USERS, THE BALANCE COMPRISED BY COTTON, POLYESTER AND RAYON. FASHION TRENDS HOWEVER INDICATE AN INCREASING SHIFT FROM POLYESTER TO NYLON.

AT PRESENT, AN INTER-AGENCY GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE IS LOOKING INTO THE DUMPING OF NYLON AND POLYESTER YARN
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FROM KOREA, TAIWAN AND JAPAN. IMPORTATION OF 70 AND 100 DENIER NYLON FILAMENT IS SUBJECTED TO RIGID TARIFF CONTROL WHILE LITTLE RESTRICTION IS IMPOSED ON IMPORTATION OF 40 DENIER YARN.

2. WHEN ASKED ABOUT AMERICAN PHILIPPINE FIBER INDUSTRIES, INC. (AMPHIL), BOI OFFICIALS SAID THEY SENT SEVERAL LETTERS AND QUERIES TO SAID COMPANY FOR THE PAST MONTHS. THEY HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY REPLY THUS GIVING BOI THE IMPRESSION THAT AMPIL HAS LOST INTEREST IN THE PROJECT. BOI OFFICIALS HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT EMBASSY WITHHOLD ANY RECOMMENDATION OF EXIMBANK LOAN APPROVAL TO AMPIL UNTIL AFTER INVESTIGATION OF THE MATTER. WE EXPECT TO HEAR FURTHER FROM BOI.
SULLIVAN

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